Today's News - March 13, 2006

ArcSpace brings us Ito's winning design for Taiwan. — We lose a rising star much too young. — Rybczynski gives us an eyeful of modern architecture in Spain. — On home turf, the Spanish avant-garde runs into stone walls of tradition. — The Queen of England may have opened the Sydney Opera House's new colonnade to great fanfare, while Farrelly tries hard "not to use the word carbuncle." — The new suburb: runways transformed into driveways. — An architect fins a new vision for American suburbs in Tijuana's shantytowns. — Kamin waxes poetic about Chicago's "most sensuous skyscraper" (no, not Calatrava's). — Campbell bemoans plans for a Boston skyscraper. — Big plans in Denver. a "landscraper" 55 stories long. — Goldberger rhapsodizes about Herzog & de Meuron's "mysterious skins" in Munich, San Francisco, and Beijing. — New, civic life for a distillery in Helsinki that offers a lesson for London "in need of a shot of pure Helsinki spirit." — Ten tips if you want to work in Asia. — Two takes on Modernism (or "Modernwasm?") as V&A about to open a blockbuster of a show. — P.S. 1's summer courtyard promises to be "Beatfuse!" — Rashid wow's them in Malaysia. — Canadians rate their cities.

Malaysia. – Canadians rate their cities.

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Obituary: Simon Ungers, 48, Dies in Germany- The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

Spanish Fly: How did modern architecture in Spain get so good? By Witold Rybczynski — Gehry; EMBT Miralles Tagliabue; Carme Pinós; Herzog & de Meuron; Koolhaas; Hadid; Foster; Jürgen Mayer H.; Nouvel; Richard Rogers Partnership; Estudio Lamela; Edwin Chan; Francisco Leiva Ivorra; grupo aranea; Toyo Ito; Ábalos & Herreros; Eisenman; Álvaro Siza; Alberto Campo Baeza [slide show essay]- Slate

Competition winner: Toyo Ito: Taichung Metropolitan Opera House, Taichung City, Taiwan

Spanish avant-garde runs into wall of disapproval: ...bumped into the stone walls of tradition in the western city of Cáceres... -- Emilio Tuñón; Luis Moreno Mansilla; Miguel Madera- Guardian (UK)

If they find the money, it's curtains for the Opera House: Now, at last, the bandages are off the third...product...a small, square colonnade that stumps along the western face of the podium. Yesterday, Stumpy (I'm trying hard not to use the word carbuncle) was opened by the Queen. By Elizabeth Farrelly -- Joern Utzon- Sydney Morning Herald

End of the Runway: New Homes Are Rising: As cities sprawl, many envelop airports that were once considered isolated. Developers are discovering that the old airstrips are the perfect places for large-scale projects.- New York Times

Shantytowns as a New Suburban Ideal: In Tijuana's shantytowns, Teddy Cruz may have found a new vision for suburban America. By Nicolai Ouroussoff [images]- New York

Aqua could be Chicago's most sensuous skyscraper: Jeanne Gang...has shaped a dazzling 83-story residential tower that looks like a hipper version of Bertrand Goldberg's twin corncobs at Marina City. By Blair Kamin -- Jim Loewenberg; Studio/Gang/Architects-Chicago Tribune

There's a place in Boston for skyscrapers, but this isn't it: The problem with thinking of skyscrapers as symbolic beacons is that they're nothing but vertical crates of commercial, rentable space. They lack civic, communal, or spiritual meaning. By Robert Campbell-Boston Globe

'Landscraper' going up near Platte: ...the Taxi project on the fringe of downtown Denver will blossom into a riverfront hot spot for creative entrepreneurs...part of an ambitious, multiphase, 15-acre riverfront development -- David Baker; Will Bruder; Harry Teague; Alan Eban Brown- Denver Business Journal

Mysterious Skin: Herzog and de Meuron's otherworldly stadium in Munich... The Allianz Arena has a delightfully surreal appearance...prove[s] that softness is not for sissies. By Paul Goldberger- New Yorker

Spirit of adventure: Helsinki's new courthouse has an atmosphere like no other. But then, it did start out as a distillery...Guinness brewery in west London, is under threat..only the dimmest of anti-architecture dimwits would want to bring about its fall. By Jonathan Glancey -- Vaino Vahakallio (1940); Tuomo Siitonen- Guardian (UK)

Ten Things You'll Want to Know About Working in Asia -- Parker Durrant International-AlArchitect

Modernism - or should that be Modernwasm? ...it is devilishly difficult to pin down exactly what Modernism is, or was...blockbuster exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum is devoted to just this subject. "Designing a New World" is the subtitle. And yes, that is exactly what Modernism set out to do. By Hugh Pearman [images]- HughPearman.com (UK)

Back to the future: As the V&A prepares to unveil its groundbreaking modernism exhibition, Caroline Roux meets eight modernist lovers, and reveals how we fell for the clean lines, tubular steel and bent plywood of 20th-century design- Observer (UK)

Going to the Museum? Take Sunscreen and Get Ready to Dance: "Beatfuse!," the winning entry in a design competition that annually transforms the courtyard at the P.S. 1 in Long Island City — Young Architects Program; Pablo Castro/Jennifer Lee/OBRA

Architects [image]- New York Times

<u>Creating originality: Karim Rashid's life has all the elements of a well-produced script.</u>
<u>There's drama...excitement...and accolades... [images]</u>- New Straits Times (Malaysia)

<u>Comparing Cities Poll: How Do Canadians Feel About Their Cities?</u>- LaFontaine-Baldwin Symposium

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